

# Utah Technology Industry Council 2004 Legislative Initiatives

## 3/23/2004

2004 Legislation Initiatives		
Action	Issue	Status
Draft and initiate	Allow State Securities Division to keep all fines, and increased licensing fees and use funds as follows: 1) 50% of funds to create an education fund for entrepreneurial/investor education at the public/private school and university/college level, and 2) 50% to foster new technology company incubation (such as tenant rent subsidies, networking activities for tenants, virtual incubation programming, best practices, etc.), funding for a SBIR matching programs and entrepreneurial support organizations to foster networking, entrepreneurial education, and fundraising programming. Funds currently allocated to the General Fund to remain static with any additional revenue allocated to the above split.	No action
Draft and initiate	Establish an entity to attract Federal and State funding for focused technology incubation to be commercialized (the Battelle initiative). U.S. Congress authorized a \$1.8M appropriation for this initiative. State matching funds could be generated in part from the State Securities Division fee revenue listed above.	No action

Support for Other Legislation in the 2004 Session		
Action	Issue	
Encourage constitutional revision committee inclusion in 2004 bill	Support a constitutional revision allowing a carve-out exception for State institutions of higher education and business incubation and support entities and to take equity in corporations in exchange for license rights to State owned technologies and/or their incubation and development.	<a href="#">Passed - HRJ 12</a>
Support existing DCED bill	Create more flexibility for DBED in administering IAF and other economic development funds once allocated by the Legislature. This will allow DBED to be more opportunistic and responsive to the demands of business opportunity	<a href="#">Passed - HB75</a>
Support existing bill	Continue the current phase of the Governor's Engineering Initiative to double the number of Science and Engineering graduates.	\$1.5M passed -
Support DCED bill	Ongoing funding for the Utah Technology Alliance at a level of \$450,000 per year and change funding from an annual appropriation to a budget line item.	\$250K passed -
Support existing bill	Restore traditional funding for Utah's Centers of Excellence programs to \$3M per year.	No increase
Support existing bill	Support the Utah Manufacturing Enhancement Act which provides for the following initiatives: i) expansion and retention of the manufacturing sales tax exemption ii) increase the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) State funding to \$900,000 to protect the current Federal matching dollars iii) additional items as identified by the UMA	Funding raised to \$600K -

2004 Interim Study Issues in Preparation for the 2005 Session		
Action	Issue	
Study and propose solutions	State sales tax code revisions to eliminate the local incentive to attract retail businesses over technology businesses	
Study and propose solutions	Develop and introduce a comprehensive and coordinated list of economic and administrative incentives to encourage technology business development. Among others, these could include: 1. A meaningful custom fit training program with better access by companies, funded at a level that has an impact. 2. State-wide RDA's for technology based business development 3. Economic incentives to retain jobs in Utah even if a business is sold to an company outside Utah	
Study viability and possible solutions	Allow the state of Utah to create economic development engines for technology industry projects including the issuance of revenue bonds as appropriate.	
Study viability and possible solutions	Legislative resolution encouraging municipalities to streamline the permitting process and to encourage municipalities to cooperatively create one-stop permitting across jurisdictional boundaries.	